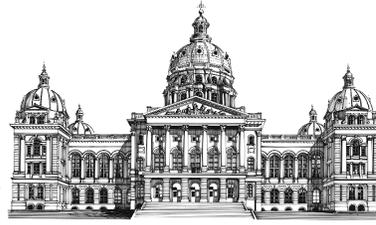

Iowa Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Dennis Prouty
(515) 281-5279
FAX 281-8451



State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319
September 30, 1999

Recreation Infrastructure Grant Program

ISSUE

The Recreation Infrastructure Grant Program was established to provide cost share funding to cities, counties, County Conservation Boards, or other organizations wanting to build or restore recreational facilities. This *Issue Review* provides an overview of the Program.

AFFECTED AGENCIES

Department of Natural Resources

CODE AUTHORITY

Chapter 571, Iowa Administrative Code

BACKGROUND

The Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program was established by the General Assembly for FY 1999 in SF 2381, Infrastructure Appropriations Act, by providing an appropriation of \$2.5 million for the Program from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund. The Program provides a State match of one dollar for every two dollars raised by the grant applicant. The minimum grant amount is \$2,500 and the maximum grant amount is \$100,000.

The Department of Natural Resources is responsible for the administration of the Program and adopted administrative rules for disbursement of funds that became effective August 21, 1998.

CURRENT SITUATION

Initial grant applications were due September 1, 1998. A Review and Selection Committee, consisting of six members appointed by the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, reviewed the applications received for FY 1999. The Committee used a numerical rating system to determine which applications would receive grants. The following weight factors were used:

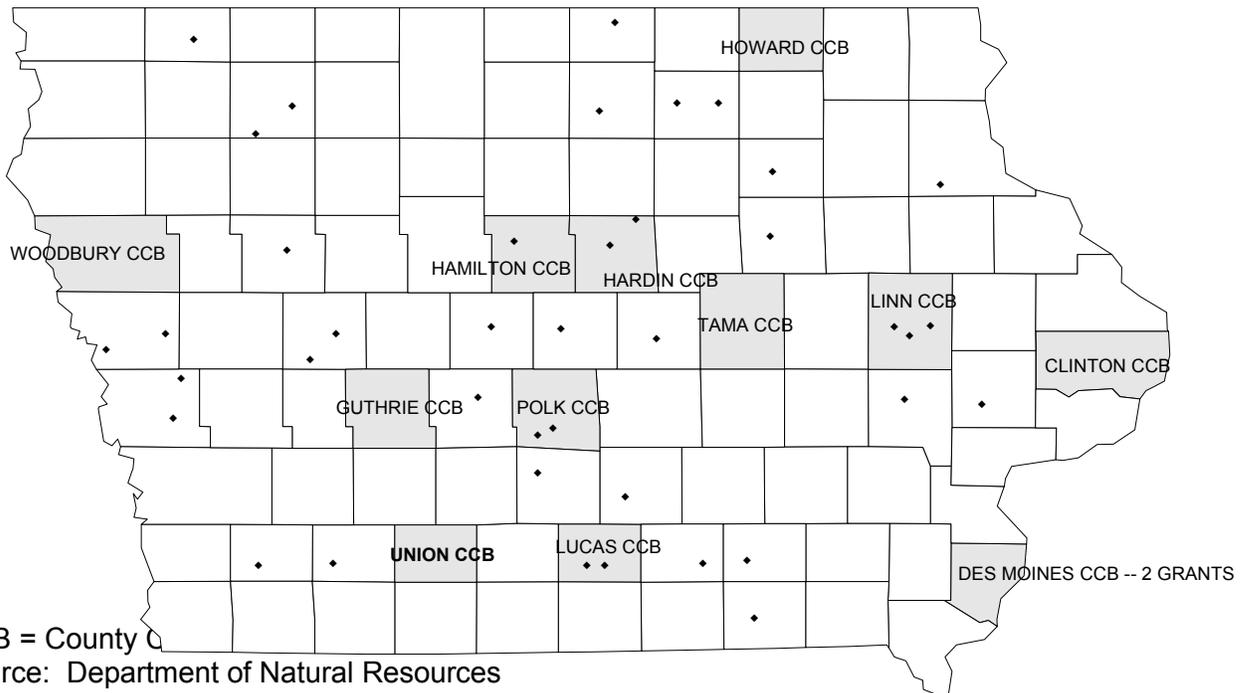
- Public demand or need – weight factor of 2
- Quality of site or project – weight factor of 3

- Urgency of proposed project – weight factor of 2
- Multiple benefits provided – weight factor of 2
- Relationship to Statewide plans – weight factor of 1
- Conformance to local/regional plans – weight factor of 2
- Economic benefits to local economies – weight factor of 1
- Geographic distribution – weight factor of 1

Each criteria received a score between 1 and 10 (1 the lowest and 10 the highest). The criteria score was multiplied by the weight factor to get the weighted score for those criteria. The average score was determined by adding up the weighted scores for the project. Of the projects receiving grants, the highest average score was 95.40 and the lowest was 73.83.

There were 159 applications received with total grants requested of \$7.5 million. Fifty three projects received full funding and one project was offered a reduced level of funding for a total of \$2.5 million. These projects were approved at the November 1998 Natural Resource Commission meeting. Refer to **Attachment A** for a listing of the grants awarded. The following map identifies the locations of the cities or County Conservation Boards that were awarded grants.

Recreation Infrastructure Grants Awarded in FY 1999



As of April 1, 1999, applicants were required to send the Department of Natural Resources proof that funding is available for the project. Proof of funding includes a letter of intent stating that project funds are included in the requesting entity’s budget. Persons required to sign the letter include the Mayor, Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors, Chairperson of the County Conservation Board, Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer. Applicants not making this

information available are removed from the approved grant list. As of April 1, 1999, the Department received letters of intent for all awarded grants.

ALTERNATIVES

If all projects received funding, the Recreation Infrastructure Grant Program would need an additional \$5.0 million in funding.

BUDGET IMPACT

The General Assembly appropriated \$3.5 million for FY 2000 and \$3.5 million for FY 2001 in House File 772, Infrastructure Appropriations Act, from the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund for this Program. The Act specifies that special consideration be given to recreational facility projects that involve participation by the public or private sector. The Governor vetoed the FY 2001 appropriation.

Grant proposals for FY 2000 are due to the Department of Natural Resources by September 1, 1999. The Natural Resource Commission will approve the projects selected by the Review and Selection Committee at the November 1999 meeting.

STAFF CONTACT: Deb Kozel (Ext. 16767)

Recreation Infrastructure Grants Awarded for FY 1999

Applicant	Project	Grant Awarded	Applicant Match	Total Cost
Ackley	Prairie Bridges Park	\$ 10,300	\$ 20,600	\$ 30,900
Albia	City park improvements	39,710	81,500	121,210
Ames	Ice arena replacement	100,000	3,700,000	3,800,000
Blakesburg	Gymnasium	28,666	57,334	86,000
Boone	McHose Park restroom	33,000	66,000	99,000
Cedar Falls	Island Park	15,000	30,000	45,000
Cedar Rapids	In-line skating & skateboard park	78,517	157,033	235,550
Cedar Valley Youth Soccer	Soccer Complex	93,400	186,700	280,100
Chariton	Northwest Park	23,585	47,170	70,755
Charles City	Recreation trail extension	4,835	9,670	14,505
Clear Lake	City parkway extension	96,000	194,000	290,000
Clinton CCB	Rock Creek Marina Campground	15,506	31,011	46,517
Des Moines CCB	Lower Augusta Skunk River access	2,820	5,630	8,450
Des Moines CCB	Pumping plant recreation area	3,450	6,900	10,350
Des Moines Park & Rec	Urban Trail Bridge	100,000	174,143	350,895
Dunlap	Pool replacement	100,000	450,000	550,000
Floyd CCB (partial funding)	Fossil and Prairie Center	58,621	689,379	748,000
Glidden	Little League facility	6,500	13,500	20,000
Guthrie CCB	Nations Bridge Park renovations	25,823	51,645	77,468
Hamilton CCB	Briggs Wood Campground	100,000	281,180	381,180
Hardin CCB	Daisy Howard Park	54,000	108,000	162,000
Hiawatha	Park Complex	89,333	178,667	268,000
Howard CCB	Praire Edge Nature Center	65,000	260,000	325,000
Iowa Falls	Pool & Acquatic Center	100,000	2,400,000	2,500,000
Linn CCB	Wickiup Hill outdoor learning center	100,000	650,000	750,000
Logan	Logan Community Center	99,200	396,800	496,000
Lucas CCB	Pin Oak Marsh Recreation	97,983	290,000	387,983
Marion	Starry Baseball Field Restrooms	16,000	32,000	48,000
Marshalltown	Park Restroom	7,390	14,780	22,170
Mulchler	Community recreation center	31,664	63,336	95,000
Nora Springs	Pool repair	30,000	60,000	90,000
North Liberty	Bike Trail Shelter	8,258	16,542	24,800
Northwood	Swimming pool replacement	100,000	787,880	887,880
Nonwalk	Windflower Park Shelter	28,752	57,503	86,255
Onawa	Liberty, Gaukel, & Ropes Park	27,020	54,040	81,060
Perry	McCreary Recreation Center	100,000	225,360	325,360
Petersen	Pool renovation	4,401	8,937	13,338
Pleasantville	Restrooms & concession building	11,666	23,334	35,000
Polk CCB	Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt	35,000	70,000	105,000
Red Oak	Skate park development	17,000	40,000	57,000
Sac City	Chataqua Park	11,263	22,526	33,789
Sibley	Pool renovation	79,127	158,255	237,382
Spencer	Leach Park Shelter	56,331	114,369	170,700
Strawberry Point	Campbell Park	94,164	200,000	294,164
Tama CCB	Otter Creek Park	13,365	27,135	40,500
Templeton Sports Boosters	Sports complex improvements	6,087	13,207	19,294
Trees Forever Belmont	River Park campground	13,486	26,972	40,458
Union County	Shelter education center	63,843	176,157	240,000
Ute	Restroom renovation/tennis court	3,333	6,667	10,000
Villisca	Pool renovation	30,000	60,000	90,000
Waverly	Memorial Park	30,000	60,000	90,000
Webster City	Nokomis Park shelter	2,600	5,200	7,800
West Des Moines	Raccoon River Park	100,000	200,000	300,000
Woodbury CCB	Campground comfort station	38,000	76,000	114,000
Total		\$ 2,499,999	\$ 13,137,062	\$ 15,713,813